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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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// G01N33/76

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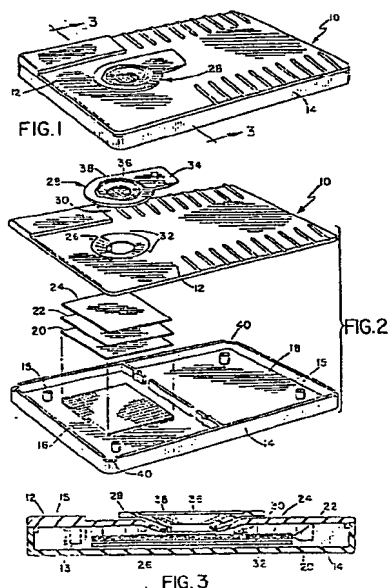
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54 Immunodiagnostic device.

57 A device for assaying biological fluids for molecules contained therein comprising a container (10), material situated in the container for absorbing fluid (20) and in communication with an antibody or antigen impregnated matrix (24), wherein the matrix is accessible to the exterior of the container through a funnel shaped aperture (26) in the roof of the container. Further features include a chemical drying agent (18) associated with the container for absorbing moisture, thereby preventing inactivation of the assay reagents, and a filter (28) situated above the antibody or antigen impregnated matrix, and in communication with the matrix through the aperture in the roof of the container. The filter removes interfering substances present in the biological fluids, and provides protein blocking agents to the matrix material for decreasing the background of the assay.



EP 0 260 965 A3

EP 87 30 8227

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
P,X	EP-A-0 217 403 (ABBOTT LAB.) * Column 12, lines 8-11, 20-31; column 31; figure 5; claims 4-11 *	22	G 01 N 33/543 G 01 N 33/76
A	--	2,12, 17,21, 23	
X	EP-A-0 186 100 (ABBOTT LAB.) * Pages 6,7; page 9, lines 1-20; claims 1,4-9 *	22	
Y		1,22	
A	--	12,13, 18,19	
Y	EP-A-0 034 049 (EASTMAN KODAK CO.) * Page 5, line 1 - page 6, line 10; page 7, lines 15-20, line 25 - page 8, line 5; claims 1-5 *	1,22	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4) G 01 N 33/00
Y	EP-A-0 097 952 (FUJI) * Page 16, lines 10-13; page 17, lines 32-35; page 22, lines 29-33; page 23, lines 10-16; pages 28,29; figures 2,29; claims 1,21 *	1,22	
A	--	3,24	
A,D	US-A-3 888 629 (K.D. BAGSHAW) * Column 3, lines 6-11,26-31,36-40; figure 1; claims 1,7,8,12,13,17, 19 *	1,3,7, 8,16, 22,24	
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		/.	
Place of search Berlin		Date of completion of the search 25-03-1988	Examiner DE KOK
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			



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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

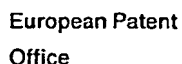
- ☐ All claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

X LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirement of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims 1-9,12-25: A device for performing diagnostic assays of biological fluids.....
2. Claims 10,11: A method for impregnating immunochemicals onto matrix materials.....

- ☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☒ None of the further search fees has been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims: 1-9,12-25



Application number

EP 87 30 8227

- 2 -

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